

Date of Issuance: June 2, 2022

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION SUMMARY:

**AVIAN NEST MONITORING ON RIPARIAN PROPERTIES**

**2019-SWCA-1910B**

The work for the above referenced project has been completed. Below is a summary of project related information.

**The purpose of the above referenced project was:**

The purpose was to perform southwestern willow flycatcher territory/nest monitoring at Riparian Reserve Mesquite West Parcel 1-A to assess the effects of brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) control on flycatcher nest success at Parcel 1-A.

This work was done in coordination with project 2019-SWCA-1920D.

**The major accomplishments or findings of this project include:**

Flycatcher monitoring was conducted between May 15 and August 6, 2020, to assess the effects of brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) control on flycatcher nest success at Parcel 1-A. A total of 18 adult willow flycatchers (*Empidonax traillii*) were detected at Mesquite West Parcel 1-A, Bunkerville West Parcel 2-M, Riverside Parcel 3-A, and Mormon Mesa Parcel 5-A. The willow flycatchers detected at Parcels 2-M and 3-A were detected only during the first round of surveys and were believed to be spring migrants passing through the Riparian Reserve Units. The remaining 16 individuals at Parcels 1-A and 5-A comprised six pairs, one unpaired male, and three individuals for which residency and/or breeding status could not be determined. Nine confirmed nesting attempts were documented; one of these attempts was successful. Six adult and two nestling flycatchers were banded in 2020. Of the two nestlings banded at Mormon Mesa Parcel 5-A, one is known to have fledged. Opportunities for brown-headed cowbird control were limited in 2020, for multiple reasons, so no inferences on effectiveness could be made.

For more information about this project and/or for other Project Reports or Symposium Reports, please visit our [website](#)

If you have any questions about this project please contact DCP Project Manager Caryn Wright at (702) 455-2972